

The Federal Communications Commission

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

To Whom It May Concern at the FCC: My mother and I have disabilities so we carry a cell phone, one that uses pre-paid minutes, with us whenever we leave our homes. We have our cell phones mainly for emergency purposes. We don't talk on our cell phones as a regular part of our daily lives. We have them in case we fall we can call for help. Or, if our cars break down, we can call for help. Many of our friends and relatives who are disabled or elderly have pre-paid cell phones too. We don not want to pay more for our telephone service! We urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. We are concerned that this proposal could make our current service unaffordable.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls, like us, would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. This is unfair! Not only for most people, but especially the disabled, elderly and the poor who can't afford anymore rate hikes or taxes, which ever word you want to use for making it harder for us to survive finanacilly.

As I mentioned before, we use our wireless phones for emergencies; very rarely to make a social call. We don't want to lose the security and and convenience of being able to afford a cell phone just because big businesses want to pay less than their fair share. Please reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair for everyone, especially for those who need to be able to rely on a cell phone for emergencies.

Thank you.

Lori Maatman 140 Clover St.
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Sincerely,

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